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UTILITY PATENT APPLICATION TRANSMITTAL (Only for new nonprovisional applications under 37 CFR 1.53(b))	Attorney Docket No.	98,05&CIP	Total Pages	
	First Named Inventor or Application Identifier			
	McClendon, Virginia S.			
	Express Mail Label No.	EG254841450US		

APPLICATION ELEMENTS See MPEP chapter 600 concerning utility patent application contents.		ADDRESS TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents Box Patent Application Washington, DC 20231	
1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form (Submit an original, and a duplicate for fee processing)	6. <input type="checkbox"/> Microfiche Computer Program (Appendix)	ACCOMPANYING APPLICATION PARTS 8. <input type="checkbox"/> Assignment Papers (cover sheet & document(s)) 9. <input type="checkbox"/> 37 CFR 3.73(b) Statement (when there is an assignee) <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney 10. <input type="checkbox"/> English Translation Document (if applicable) 11. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)/PTO-1449 <input type="checkbox"/> Copies of IDS Citations 12. <input type="checkbox"/> Preliminary Amendment 13. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Return Receipt Postcard (MPEP 503) (Should be specifically itemized) 14. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Small Entity Statement filed in prior application, Status still proper and desired 15. <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) (if foreign priority is claimed) 16. <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ _____ _____	
2. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Specification [Total Pages 16] - Descriptive title of the Invention - Cross References to Related Applications - Statement Regarding Fed sponsored R & D - Reference to Microfiche Appendix - Background of the Invention - Brief Summary of the Invention - Brief Description of the Drawings (if filed) - Detailed Description - Claim(s) - Abstract of the Disclosure	7. Nucleotide and/or Amino Acid Sequence Submission (if applicable, all necessary) a. <input type="checkbox"/> Computer Readable Copy b. <input type="checkbox"/> Paper Copy (identical to computer copy) c. <input type="checkbox"/> Statement verifying identity of above copies		
3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) (35 USC 113) [Total Sheets 3]			
4. Oath or Declaration [Total Pages 2] a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Newly executed (original or copy) b. <input type="checkbox"/> Copy from a prior application (37 CFR 1.63(d)) (for continuation/divisional with Box 17 completed) [Note Box 5 below] i. <input type="checkbox"/> DELETION OF INVENTOR(S) Signed statement attached deleting inventor(s) named in the prior application, see 37 CFR 1.63(d)(2) and 1.33(b).			
5. <input type="checkbox"/> Incorporation By Reference (useable if Box 4b is checked) The entire disclosure of the prior application, from which a copy of the oath or declaration is supplied under Box 4b, is considered as being part of the disclosure of the accompanying application and is hereby incorporated by reference therein.			

17. If a CONTINUING APPLICATION, check appropriate box and supply the requisite information:
☐ Continuation ☐ Divisional ☒ Continuation-in-part (CIP) of prior application No: 08 / 908,339

18. CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS
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<h2 style="margin: 0;">FEE TRANSMITTAL</h2> <p style="font-size: small; margin: 5px 0;">Note: Effective October 1, 1997. Patent fees are subject to annual revision.</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; margin: 0;">Complete if Known</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td style="width: 60%;">Application Number</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Filing Date</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>First Named Inventor</td><td>McClendon, Virginia S.</td></tr> <tr><td>Group Art Unit</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Examiner Name</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Attorney Docket Number</td><td>98,058 CIP</td></tr> </table>	Application Number		Filing Date		First Named Inventor	McClendon, Virginia S.	Group Art Unit		Examiner Name		Attorney Docket Number	98,058 CIP
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METHOD OF PAYMENT (check one)	FEE CALCULATION (continued)																																																																																																																				
<p>1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge extra fees and credit any over payments to:</p> <p>Deposit Account Number 23-0125</p> <p>Deposit Account Name Walker, McKenzie & Walker, P.C.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Charge Any Additional Fee Required Under 37 CFR 1.16 and 1.17 <input type="checkbox"/> Charge the Issue Fee Set in 37 CFR 1.18 at the Mailing of the Notice of Allowance</p> <p>2. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Payment Enclosed:</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Check <input type="checkbox"/> Money Order <input type="checkbox"/> Other</p>	<h3 style="margin: 0;">3. ADDITIONAL FEES</h3> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th>Large Entity Fee Code</th> <th>Small Entity Fee Code</th> <th>Fee Description</th> <th>Fee Paid</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>105 130</td><td>205 65</td><td>Surcharge - late filing fee or oath</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>127 50</td><td>227 25</td><td>Surcharge - late provisional filing fee or cover sheet</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>139 130</td><td>139 130</td><td>Non-English specification</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>147 2,520</td><td>147 2,520</td><td>For filing a request for reexamination</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>112 920*</td><td>112 920*</td><td>Requesting publication of SIR prior to Examiner action</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>113 1,840*</td><td>113 1,840*</td><td>Requesting publication of SIR after Examiner action</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>115 110</td><td>215 55</td><td>Extension for reply within first month</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>116 400</td><td>216 200</td><td>Extension for reply within second month</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>117 950</td><td>217 475</td><td>Extension for reply within third month</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>118 1,510</td><td>218 755</td><td>Extension for reply within fourth month</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>128 2,060</td><td>228 1,030</td><td>Extension for reply within fifth month</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>119 310</td><td>219 155</td><td>Notice of Appeal</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>120 310</td><td>220 155</td><td>Filing a brief in support of an appeal</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>121 270</td><td>221 135</td><td>Request for oral hearing</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>138 1,510</td><td>138 1,510</td><td>Petition to institute a public use proceeding</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>140 110</td><td>240 55</td><td>Petition to revive - unavoidable</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>141 1,320</td><td>241 660</td><td>Petition to revive - unintentional</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>142 1,320</td><td>242 660</td><td>Utility issue fee (or reissue)</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>143 450</td><td>243 225</td><td>Design issue fee</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>144 670</td><td>244 335</td><td>Plant issue fee</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>122 130</td><td>122 130</td><td>Petitions to the Commissioner</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>123 50</td><td>123 50</td><td>Petitions related to provisional applications</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>126 240</td><td>126 240</td><td>Submission of Information Disclosure Stmt</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>581 40</td><td>581 40</td><td>Recording each patent assignment per property (times number of properties)</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>146 790</td><td>246 395</td><td>Filing a submission after final rejection (37 CFR 1.129(a))</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>149 790</td><td>249 395</td><td>For each additional invention to be examined (37 CFR 1.129(b))</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td colspan="4">Other fee (specify) _____</td></tr> <tr><td colspan="4">Other fee (specify) _____</td></tr> </tbody> </table>	Large Entity Fee Code	Small Entity Fee Code	Fee Description	Fee Paid	105 130	205 65	Surcharge - late filing fee or oath		127 50	227 25	Surcharge - late provisional filing fee or cover sheet		139 130	139 130	Non-English specification		147 2,520	147 2,520	For filing a request for reexamination		112 920*	112 920*	Requesting publication of SIR prior to Examiner action		113 1,840*	113 1,840*	Requesting publication of SIR after Examiner action		115 110	215 55	Extension for reply within first month		116 400	216 200	Extension for reply within second month		117 950	217 475	Extension for reply within third month		118 1,510	218 755	Extension for reply within fourth month		128 2,060	228 1,030	Extension for reply within fifth month		119 310	219 155	Notice of Appeal		120 310	220 155	Filing a brief in support of an appeal		121 270	221 135	Request for oral hearing		138 1,510	138 1,510	Petition to institute a public use proceeding		140 110	240 55	Petition to revive - unavoidable		141 1,320	241 660	Petition to revive - unintentional		142 1,320	242 660	Utility issue fee (or reissue)		143 450	243 225	Design issue fee		144 670	244 335	Plant issue fee		122 130	122 130	Petitions to the Commissioner		123 50	123 50	Petitions related to provisional applications		126 240	126 240	Submission of Information Disclosure Stmt		581 40	581 40	Recording each patent assignment per property (times number of properties)		146 790	246 395	Filing a submission after final rejection (37 CFR 1.129(a))		149 790	249 395	For each additional invention to be examined (37 CFR 1.129(b))		Other fee (specify) _____				Other fee (specify) _____			
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SUBMITTED BY				Complete (if applicable)	
Typed or Printed Name	Larry W. McKenzie			Reg. Number	28,239
Signature		Date	7-20-98	Deposit Account User ID	23-0125

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BEDCLOTHES

5 This is a continuation-in-part of Application No. 08/908,339, entitled "ONE UNIT SET OF LINEN AND BEDDING APPAREL WITH DETACHABLE PARTS," filed August 7, 1997, now pending. Such specifically enumerated prior application is hereby incorporated herein by reference.

10	Not Applicable.
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Not Applicable.

1. Field of the Invention: The present invention relates, in general, to bedclothes
15 used to make a bed, and, more specifically, to the combination a first or fitted sheet for
covering the top of a mattress and a second, top or flat sheet for covering the top of the
fitted sheet with the foot end of the flat sheet attached to the foot end of the fitted
sheet.

2. Information Disclosure Statement: Various specific types and designs of

bedclothes, commonly including various covering (as sheets, comforters, bed skirts, pillow cases) used on a bed, are well known to those skilled in the art. However, to make a bed using typical bedclothes, each separate piece is put on the bed one at a time.

5 The following patents were cited in the above identified prior application and appear to be relevant to the present invention:

McLeod, U.S. Patent 4,301,561, issued November 24, 1981, discloses a separable, fitted liner and bed sheet for a waterbed. The bottom sheet has U-shaped cutouts at the corners thereof and is attached to an underliner using Velcro® fasteners or the like. The foot end of a top sheet is sewn or stitched to the foot end of the bottom sheet.

10 Colburn, U.S. Patent 4,488,323, issued December 18, 1984, discloses bedding including a mattress pad, a sheet, and coacting hook-and-loop type fastening means with one part of the fastening means attached to the sides of a waterbed mattress or the like, and with other parts of the fastening means attached to the mattress pad and sheet so that the mattress pad and sheet can be secured to the mattress without lifting the ends
15 of the mattress.

Schwind, U.S. Patent 5,335,383, issued August 9, 1994, discloses the combination of a flat sheet for being positioned between a mattress and box springs and having a hook-and-loop type fastening strip attached around its perimeter, and a bed skirt having a hook-and-loop type fastening strip attached around its upper edge so that the bed
20 skirt can be removably attached to the bed by joining the two fastening strips between the mattress and box springs.

Cybulski, U.S. Patent 5,557,814, issued November 24, 1996, discloses a bed sheeting arrangement including a fitted lower sheet including a non-elastic drawstring for securing the lower sheet to the mattress, an upper covering, and a two part fastener
25 such as a zipper for attaching the foot end of the upper covering to the foot end of the

lower sheet.

Hamilton, U.S. Patent 5,621,931, issued April 22, 1997, discloses a bedskirt assembly including a non-slip grip deck installed between a mattress and box springs, and a bed skirt attached to the edges of the non-slip grip deck using Velcro® fasteners or the like.

Masoncup, U.S. Patent 5,638,562, issued June 17, 1997, discloses a fitted mattress pad foundation for being attached to an upper mattress, and a dust ruffle for being mounted around three edges of a lower mattress. The fitted mattress pad foundation includes extended side panels having first fasteners attached to an outer lower end thereof. The dust ruffle includes a band of flat material attached along an upper edge of a sheet of dust ruffle material. Second fasteners are attached along an inner upper edge of the band of flat material. The fitted mattress pad foundation is placed onto the upper mattress with the extended side panels positioned alongside the lower mattress. The dust ruffle is then attached around three edges of the bed by securing the first and second fasteners (e.g., coacting Velcro® brand fasteners) to one another. The secured edges of the extended side panels of the fitted mattress pad foundation and the band of flat material of the dust ruffle are then tucked in between the upper and lower mattress.

Nothing in the known prior art discloses or suggests the present invention. More specifically, nothing in the known prior art discloses or suggests bedclothes including a fitted sheet having a top for covering the top of a mattress, a head side depending from the top thereof for covering the head side of the mattress, a foot side depending from the top thereof for covering the foot side of the mattress, a left side depending from the top thereof for covering the left side of the mattress, and a right side depending from the top thereof for covering the right side of the mattress; a flat sheet having a top for covering at least a portion of the top of the fitted sheet, and a foot side depending from the top

thereof for covering at least a portion of the foot side of the fitted sheet; a bed skirt including a foot side, a left side, and a right side; and fixing means fixing the foot side of the flat sheet to the foot side of the fitted sheet, fixing the foot side of the bed skirt to the foot side of the fitted sheet, fixing the left side of the bed skirt to the left side of the fitted sheet, and fixing the right side of the bed skirt to the right side of the fitted sheet.

(8) BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION:

The present invention provides bedclothes for making a bed in a efficient, time-saving manner. A basic concept of the present invention is to provide bedclothes in which at least the bottom or fitted sheet and top or flat sheet are simultaneously attached to the mattress.

The bedclothes of the present invention comprise, in general, a fitted sheet including a top for covering the top of a mattress, a head side depending from the top thereof for covering the head side of the mattress, a foot side depending from the top thereof for covering the foot side of the mattress, a left side depending from the top thereof for covering the left side of the mattress, and a right side depending from the top thereof for covering the right side of the mattress; a flat sheet including a top for covering at least a portion of the top of the fitted sheet, and a foot side depending from the top thereof for covering at least a portion of the foot side of the fitted sheet; a bed skirt including a foot side, a left side, and a right side; and fixing means fixing the foot side of the flat sheet to the foot side of the fitted sheet, fixing the foot side of the bed skirt to the foot side of the fitted sheet, fixing the left side of the bed skirt to the left side of the fitted sheet, and fixing the right side of the bed skirt to the right side of the fitted sheet.

(9) BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE SEVERAL VIEWS OF THE DRAWINGS:

Fig. 1 is an exploded perspective view of the bedclothes of the present invention shown in combination with a bed.

Fig. 2 is a sectional view of the bedclothes of the present invention substantially
5 as taken on line 2-2 of Fig. 1, with portions omitted for clarity.

Fig. 3 is a sectional view of the bedclothes of the present invention substantially as taken on line 3-3 of Fig. 1, with portions omitted for clarity.

Fig. 4 is a somewhat diagrammatic sectional view similar to Fig. 2 but showing the bedclothes thereof mounted on a mattress of a bed.

10 Fig. 5 is a somewhat diagrammatic sectional view similar to Fig. 3 but showing the bedclothes thereof mounted on a mattress of a bed.

(10) DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION:

The present invention relates to bedclothes for making a bed. The term
“bedclothes” is used herein in its common meaning to include various covering (as
15 sheets, comforters, bed skirts, pillow cases) used on a bed.

A first preferred embodiment of the bedclothes of the present invention is shown somewhat diagrammatically in Fig. 1, and identified by the numeral **11**. The bedclothes **11** are for any bed having a mattress **13** with a top **15**, a head end or side **17**, a foot end or side **19**, a left side **21**, and a right side **23**. The mattress **13** may be any size and may be a
20 standard mattress, a waterbed mattress, or the like. The bedclothes **11** include, in general, a bottom or fitted sheet **25** and a top or flat sheet **27**, and a bed skirt **28**.

The fitted sheet **25** includes a top **29** for covering the top **15** of the mattress **13**, a head end or side **31** depending from the top **29** thereof for covering the head side **17** of the mattress **13**, a foot end or side **33** depending from the top **29** thereof for covering the

foot side **19** of the mattress **13**, a left side **35** depending from the top **29** thereof for covering the left side **21** of the mattress **13**, and a right side **37** depending from the top **29** thereof for covering the right side **23** of the mattress **13**. The fitted sheet **25** may be constructed in any typical manner and out of any typical material as will now be
5 apparent to those skilled in the art such as, for example, by being sewn out of cotton material, etc. The size and specific design of the fitted sheet **25** may also vary as will be apparent to those skilled in the art. However, the fitted sheet **25** preferably has typical fitted corners to form pockets or the like for receiving the corners of the mattress **13** in the common manner now apparent to those skilled in the art.

10 The flat sheet **27** includes a top **39** for covering at least a portion of the top **29** of the fitted sheet **25**, and a foot end or side **41** depending from the top **29** thereof for covering at least a portion of the foot side **33** of the fitted sheet **25**. Typically, the flat sheet **27** also includes a head end or edge **43**, a left side or edge **45**, and a right side or edge **47**. The flat sheet **27** may be constructed in any typical manner and out of any
15 typical material as will now be apparent to those skilled in the art such as, for example, by being cut and sewn out of cotton material, etc. The size and specific design of the flat sheet **27** may also vary but normally conforms to the size and specific design of the fitted sheet **25**, etc., as will be apparent to those skilled in the art.

The bed skirt **28**, often referred to as a dust ruffle, has a foot side **57**, a left side **59**,
20 and a right side **61**. The bed skirt **28** may be constructed in any typical manner and out of any typical material as will now be apparent to those skilled in the art such as, for example, by being cut and sewn out of cotton material, etc. The size and specific design of the bed skirt **28** may also vary but normally conforms to the size and specific design of the fitted sheet **25** and flat sheet **27**, etc., as will be apparent to those skilled in the art.

25 The bedclothes **11** include fixing means **49** fixing the foot side **41** of the flat sheet

27 to the foot side 33 of the fitted sheet 25, fixing the foot side 57 of the bed skirt 28 to the foot side 33 of the fitted sheet 25, fixing the left side 59 of the bed skirt 28 to the left side 35 of the fitted sheet 25, and fixing the right side 61 of the bed skirt 28 to the right side 37 of the fitted sheet 25. The fixing means 49 may consist of various specific means the various components together such as, for example, a plurality of coacting male and female snap members mounted on the various components to allow the flat sheet 27 and bed skirt 28 to be removably attached to the fitted sheet 25, pieces of Velcro® brand hook-and-loop fasteners or the equivalent mounted on the various components to allow the flat sheet 27 and bed skirt 28 to be removably attached to the fitted sheet 25, one or more zippers attached to the various components to allow the flat sheet 27 and bed skirt 28 to be removably attached to the fitted sheet 25, a quantity of fabric glue or the like on the various components to allow the flat sheet 27 and bed skirt 28 to be permanently attached to the fitted sheet 25, etc. Preferably, however, the fixing means 49 includes thread 51 sewing the foot side 41 of the flat sheet 27 to the foot side 33 of the fitted sheet 25 to permanently attach the foot side 41 of the flat sheet 27 to the foot side 33 of the fitted sheet 25 via a plurality of stitches or the like extending substantially across the foot side 41 of the flat sheet 27 and the foot side 33 of the fitted sheet 25; sewing the foot side 57 of the bed skirt 28 to the foot side 33 of the fitted sheet 25 to permanently attach the foot side 57 of the bed skirt 28 to the foot side 33 of the fitted sheet 25 via a plurality of stitches or the like extending substantially across the foot side 57 of the bed skirt 28 and the foot side 33 of the fitted sheet 25; sewing the left side 59 of the bed skirt 28 to the left side 35 of the fitted sheet 25 to permanently attach the left side 59 of the bed skirt 28 to the left side 35 of the fitted sheet 25 via a plurality of stitches or the like extending substantially across the left side 59 of the bed skirt 28 and the left side 35 of the fitted sheet 25; and sewing the right side 61 of the bed skirt 28 to the right side 37

of the fitted sheet **25** to permanently attach the right side **61** of the bed skirt **28** to the right side **37** of the fitted sheet **25** via a plurality of stitches or the like extending substantially across the right side **61** of the bed skirt **28** and the right side **37** of the fitted sheet **25**, as will now be apparent to those skilled in the art.

5 A second preferred embodiment of the bedclothes of the present invention is shown somewhat diagrammatically in Figs. 2-4, and identified by the numeral **2.11**. Like the bedclothes **11**, the bedclothes **2.11** are for any bed having a mattress **13** with a top **15**, a head end or side **17**, a foot end or side **19**, a left side **21**, and a right side **23**. The mattress **13** may be any size and may be a standard mattress, a waterbed mattress, or the
10 like.

The bedclothes **2.11** include, in general, a bottom or fitted sheet **2.25**, a top or flat sheet **2.27**, and a bed skirt **2.28**.

The fitted sheet **2.25** may be substantially identical to the fitted sheet **25**, and includes a top **2.29** for covering the top **15** of the mattress **13**, a head end or side **2.31**
15 depending from the top **2.29** thereof for covering the head side **17** of the mattress **13**, a foot end or side **2.33** depending from the top **2.29** thereof for covering the foot side **19** of the mattress **13**, a left side **2.35** depending from the top **2.29** thereof for covering the left side **21** of the mattress **13**, and a right side **2.37** depending from the top **2.29** thereof for covering the right side **23** of the mattress **13**. The fitted sheet **2.25** may be

20 constructed in any typical manner and out of any typical material as will now be apparent to those skilled in the art such as, for example, by being sewn out of cotton material, etc. The size and specific design of the fitted sheet **2.25** may also vary as will be apparent to those skilled in the art. However, the fitted sheet **2.25** preferably has typical fitted corners to form pockets or the like for receiving the corners of the mattress **13** in
25 the common manner now apparent to those skilled in the art.

The flat sheet **2.27** may be substantially identical to the flat sheet **27**, and includes a top **2.39** for covering at least a portion of the top **2.29** of the fitted sheet **2.25**, and a foot end or side **2.41** depending from the top **2.29** thereof for covering at least a portion of the foot side **2.33** of the fitted sheet **2.25**. Typically, the flat sheet **2.27** also includes a head end or edge **2.43**, a left side or edge **2.45**, and a right side or edge **2.47**. The flat sheet **2.27** may be constructed in any typical manner and out of any typical material as will now be apparent to those skilled in the art such as, for example, by being cut and sewn out of cotton material, etc. The size and specific design of the flat sheet **2.27** may also vary but normally conforms to the size and specific design of the fitted sheet **2.25**, etc., as will be apparent to those skilled in the art.

The bed skirt **2.28** may be substantially identical to the bed skirt **2.28**, having a foot side **2.57**, a left side **2.59**, and a right side **2.61**. The bed skirt **2.28** may be constructed in any typical manner and out of any typical material as will now be apparent to those skilled in the art such as, for example, by being cut and sewn out of cotton material, etc. The size and specific design of the bed skirt **2.28** may also vary but normally conforms to the size and specific design of the fitted sheet **2.25** and flat sheet **2.27**, etc., as will be apparent to those skilled in the art.

The bedclothes **2.11** include fixing means **2.49** fixing the foot side **2.41** of the flat sheet **2.27** to the foot side **2.33** of the fitted sheet **2.25**, fixing the foot side **2.57** of the bed skirt **2.28** to the foot side **2.33** of the fitted sheet **2.25**, fixing the left side **2.59** of the bed skirt **2.28** to the left side **2.35** of the fitted sheet **2.25**, and fixing the right side **2.61** of the bed skirt **2.28** to the right side **2.37** of the fitted sheet **2.25**. The fixing means **2.49** may consist of various specific means for attaching the various components together as disclosed hereinabove relative to the fixing means **49**. Preferably, however, the fixing means **2.49** includes thread **2.51** sewing the foot side **2.41** of the flat sheet **2.27** and the

foot side **2.57** of the bed skirt **2.28** to the foot side **2.33** of the fitted sheet **2.25**, sewing the left side **2.59** of the bed skirt **2.28** to the left side **2.35** of the fitted sheet **2.25**, and sewing the right side **2.61** of the bed skirt **2.28** to the right side **2.37** of the fitted sheet **2.25** to permanently attach the various components together via a plurality of stitches or the like extending substantially across the foot side **2.41** of the flat sheet **2.27**; the foot side **2.33**, left side **2.35** and right side **2.37** of the fitted sheet **2.25**; and the foot side **2.57**, left side **2.59** and right side **2.61** of the bed skirt **2.28** as will now be apparent to those skilled in the art.

The bedclothes **2.11** includes a comforter **2.63** having a foot side **2.65**. Typically, the comforter **2.63** also includes a top **2.67**, a head end or side **2.69**, a left side **2.71**, and a right side **2.73**. The comforter **2.63** may be constructed in any typical manner and out of any typical material as will now be apparent to those skilled in the art such as, for example, by being sewn out of cotton material with a polyester fill material, etc. The size and specific design of the comforter **2.63** may also vary, but normally conforms to the size and specific design of the fitted sheet **2.25** and flat sheet **2.27**, etc., as will be apparent to those skilled in the art.

The bedclothes **2.11** includes comforter attaching means **2.75** attaching the foot side **2.65** of the comforter **2.63** to the foot side **2.33** of the fitted sheet **2.25**. The comforter attaching means **2.75** may consist of various specific means for attaching the various components together such as, for example, pieces of Velcro® brand hook-and-loop fasteners or the equivalent to allow the foot side **2.65** of the comforter **2.63** to be removably attached to the foot side **2.33** of the fitted sheet **2.25**, a quantity of fabric glue or the like between the foot side **2.65** of the comforter **2.63** and the foot side **2.33** of the fitted sheet **2.25** to permanently attach the foot side **2.65** of the comforter **2.63** to the foot side **2.33** of the fitted sheet **2.25**, thread sewing the foot side **2.65** of the

comforter **2.63** to the foot side **2.33** of the fitted sheet **2.25** to permanently attach the foot side **2.65** of the comforter **2.63** to the foot side **2.33** of the fitted sheet **2.25** via a plurality of stitches or the like, etc. Preferably, however, the comforter attaching means **2.75** includes snaps means **2.77** removably attaching the foot side **2.65** of the comforter

5 **2.63** to the foot side **2.33** of the fitted sheet **2.25** as will now be apparent to those skilled in the art. The snap means **2.77** may include a plurality of coacting male and female snap members running along the foot side **2.65** of the comforter **2.63** and the foot side **2.33** of the fitted sheet **2.25** to allow the foot side **2.65** of the comforter **2.63** to be removably the foot side **2.33** of the fitted sheet **2.25**. More specifically, the snap means
10 **2.77** may include a plurality of spaced apart female snap members **2.79** attached to and running along the foot side **2.65** of the comforter **2.63**, and a plurality of spaced apart coacting male snap members **2.81** attached to and running along the foot side **2.41** of the flat sheet **2.27** which is, in turn, fixedly attached to the foot side **2.33** of the fitted sheet **2.25** to thereby removably attaching the foot side **2.65** of the comforter **2.63** to
15 the foot side **2.33** of the fitted sheet **2.25** as will now be apparent to those skilled in the art.

The bedclothes **2.11** preferably includes a pillow case **2.83** having a back or bottom side **2.85**. Typically, the pillow case **2.83** also includes a front or top side **2.87** associated with the back side **2.85** to form a hollow pocket or case with one opened end
20 for receiving a typical pillow **2.89**, etc., as will now be apparent to those skilled in the art. The pillow case **2.83** may be constructed in any typical manner and out of any typical material as will now be apparent to those skilled in the art such as, for example, by being cut and sewn out of cotton material, etc. The size and specific design of the pillow case **2.83** may also vary but normally conforms to the size and specific design of
25 the fitted sheet **2.25** and flat sheet **2.27**, etc., as will be apparent to those skilled in the

art.

The bedclothes **2.11** preferably includes pillow case fixing means **2.91** fixing the back side **2.85** of the pillow case **2.83** to the top **2.29** of the fitted sheet **2.25** at a location adjacent the head side **2.31** of the fitted sheet **2.25**. The fixing means **2.49** may consist of various specific means for attaching the various components together as disclosed hereinabove relative to the fixing means **2.49**. Preferably, however, the pillow case fixing means **2.93** includes thread **2.95** sewing the back side **2.85** of the pillow case **2.83** to the top **2.29** of the fitted sheet **2.25** at a location adjacent the head side **2.31** of the fitted sheet **2.25** to permanently attach the pillow case **2.83** and fitted sheet **2.25** together via a plurality of stitches or the like as will now be apparent to those skilled in the art.

The use and operation of both embodiments of the present invention provides a set of bedclothes that offers a more efficient way of making a bed. Thus, to make a bed using the bedclothes **11** of the present invention, you merely place the corner pockets of the fitted sheet **25** over the corresponding corners of the mattress **13** to simultaneously attach both the fitted sheet **25** and flat sheet **27** to the mattress **13**. If desired, a bed spread or comforter, etc., can then be spread or thrown across the top of the bedclothes **11**. Similarly, to make a bed using the bedclothes **2.11** of the present invention, you merely place the corner pockets of the fitted sheet **2.25** over the corresponding corners of the mattress **13** to simultaneously attach both the fitted sheet **2.25**, flat sheet **2.27**, bed skirt **2.28**, comforter **2.63**, etc., to the mattress **13**.

Although the present invention has been described and illustrated with respect to preferred embodiment and preferred use therefor, it is not to be so limited since modifications and changes can be made therein which are within the full intended scope of the invention.

(11) CLAIM OR CLAIMS:

1 1. Bedclothes for a bed having a mattress with a top, a head side, a foot side, a left
2 side, and a right side; said bedclothes comprising:

3 (a) a fitted sheet including a top for covering the top of the mattress, a head side
4 depending from said top thereof for covering the head side of the mattress, a foot side
5 depending from said top thereof for covering the foot side of the mattress, a left side
6 depending from said top thereof for covering the left side of the mattress, and a right side
7 depending from said top thereof for covering the right side of the mattress;

8 (b) a flat sheet including a top for covering at least a portion of said top of said
9 fitted sheet, and a foot side depending from said top thereof for covering at least a
10 portion of said foot side of said fitted sheet;

11 (c) a bed skirt including a foot side, a left side, and a right side; and

12 (c) fixing means fixing said foot side of said flat sheet to said foot side of said
13 fitted sheet, fixing said foot side of said bed skirt to said foot side of said fitted sheet,
14 fixing said left side of said bed skirt to said left side of said fitted sheet, and fixing said
15 right side of said bed skirt to said right side of said fitted sheet.

1 2. The bedclothes of claim 1 in which is included a comforter having a foot side;
2 and in which is included attaching means said foot side of said comforter to said foot
3 side of said fitted sheet.

1 3. The bedclothes of claim 1 in which is included a pillow case having a back side;
2 and in which is included pillow case fixing means fixing said back side of said pillow
3 case to said top of said fitted sheet at a location adjacent said head side of said fitted

4 sheet.

1 4. The bedclothes of claim 1 in which said fixing means includes thread sewing
2 said foot side of said flat sheet to said foot side of said fitted sheet.

1 5. Bedclothes for a bed having a mattress with a top, a head side, a foot side, a left
2 side and a right side; said bedclothes comprising:

3 (a) a fitted sheet including a top for covering the top of the mattress, a head side
4 depending from said top thereof for covering the head side of the mattress, a foot side
5 depending from said top thereof for covering the foot side of the mattress, a left side
6 depending from said top thereof for covering the left side of the mattress, and a right side
7 depending from said top thereof for covering the right side of the mattress;

8 (b) a flat sheet including a top for covering at least a portion of said top of said
9 fitted sheet, and a foot side depending from said top thereof for covering at least a
10 portion of said foot side of said fitted sheet;

11 (c) a bed skirt including a foot side, a left side, and a right side;

12 (d) fixing means fixing said foot side of said flat sheet to said foot side of said
13 fitted sheet, fixing said foot side of said bed skirt to said foot side of said fitted sheet,
14 fixing said left side of said bed skirt to said left side of said fitted sheet, fixing said right
15 side of said bed skirt to said right side of said fitted sheet;

16 (e) a comforter having a foot side; and

17 (f) comforter attaching means attaching said foot side of said comforter to said
18 foot side of said fitted sheet.

1 6. The bedclothes of claim 5 in which said fixing means includes thread sewing

2 said foot side of said flat sheet to said foot side of said fitted sheet, sewing said foot side
3 of said bed skirt to said foot side of said fitted sheet, sewing said left side of said bed
4 skirt to said left side of said fitted sheet, sewing said right side of said bed skirt to said
5 right side of said fitted sheet.

1 7. The bedclothes of claim 5 in which said attaching means includes snaps means
2 removably attaching said foot side of said comforter to said foot side of said fitted sheet.

1 8. The bedclothes of claim 5 in which is included a pillow case having a back
2 side; and pillow case fixing means and fixing said back side of said pillow case to said
3 top of said fitted sheet at a location adjacent said head side of said fitted sheet.

1 9. The bedclothes of claim 8 in which said pillow case fixing means includes
2 thread sewing said back side of said pillow case to said top of said fitted sheet at a
3 location adjacent said head side of said fitted sheet.

(12) ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE:

Bedclothes for a bed having a mattress. At a minimum, the bedclothes include a fitted sheet including a top for covering the top of the mattress, a head side depending from the top thereof for covering the head side of the mattress, a foot side depending from the top thereof for covering the foot side of the mattress, a left side depending from the top thereof for covering the left side of the mattress, and a right side depending from the top thereof for covering the right side of the mattress; a flat sheet including a top for covering at least a portion of the top of the fitted sheet, and a foot side depending from the top thereof for covering at least a portion of the foot side of the fitted sheet; a bed skirt including a foot side, a left side, and a right side; and structure fixing the foot side of the flat sheet to the foot side of the fitted sheet, fixing the foot side of the bed skirt to the foot side of the fitted sheet, fixing the left side of the bed skirt to the left side of the fitted sheet, and fixing the right side of the bed skirt to the right side of the fitted sheet.

FIG. 1

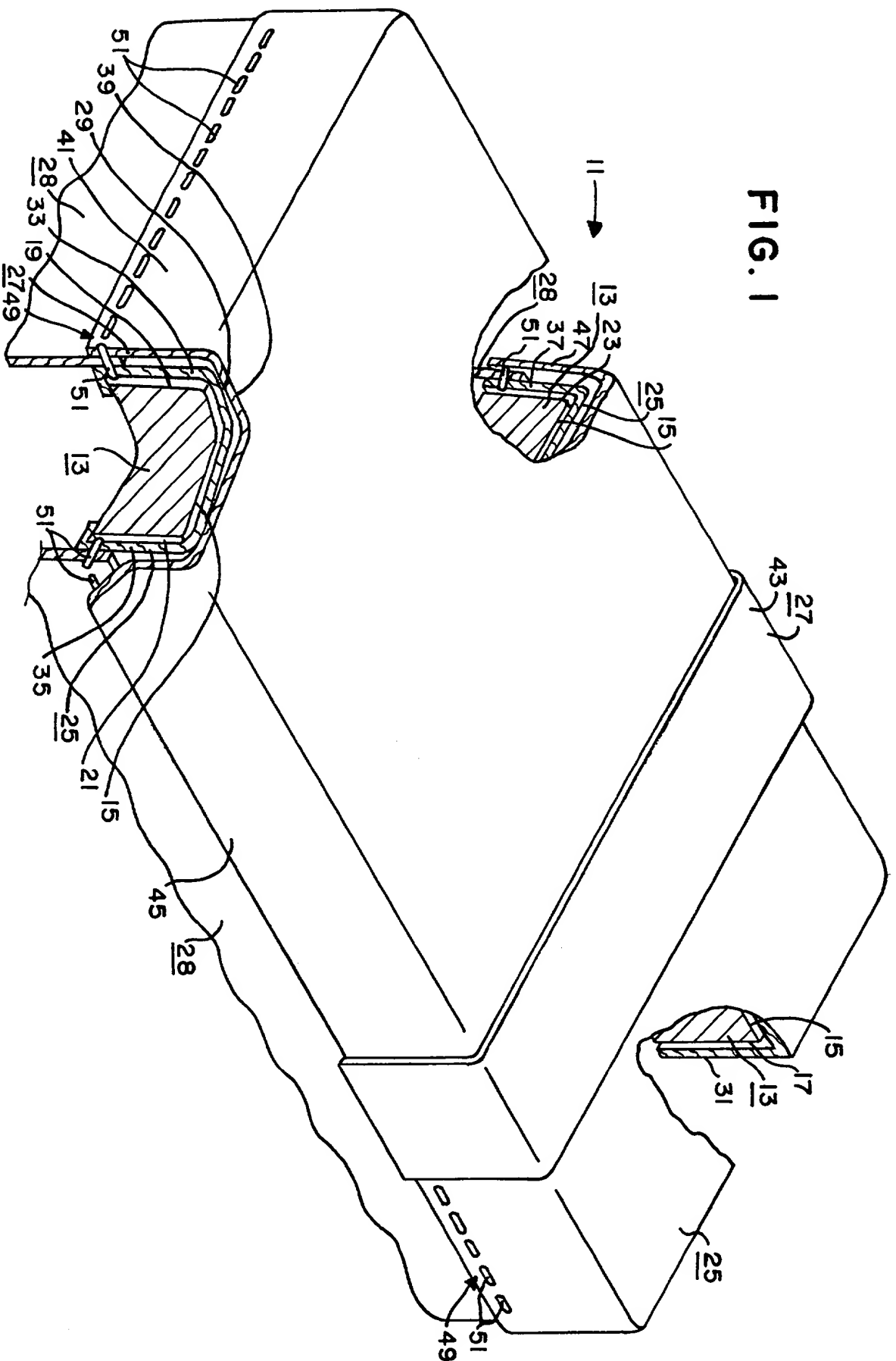


FIG. 2

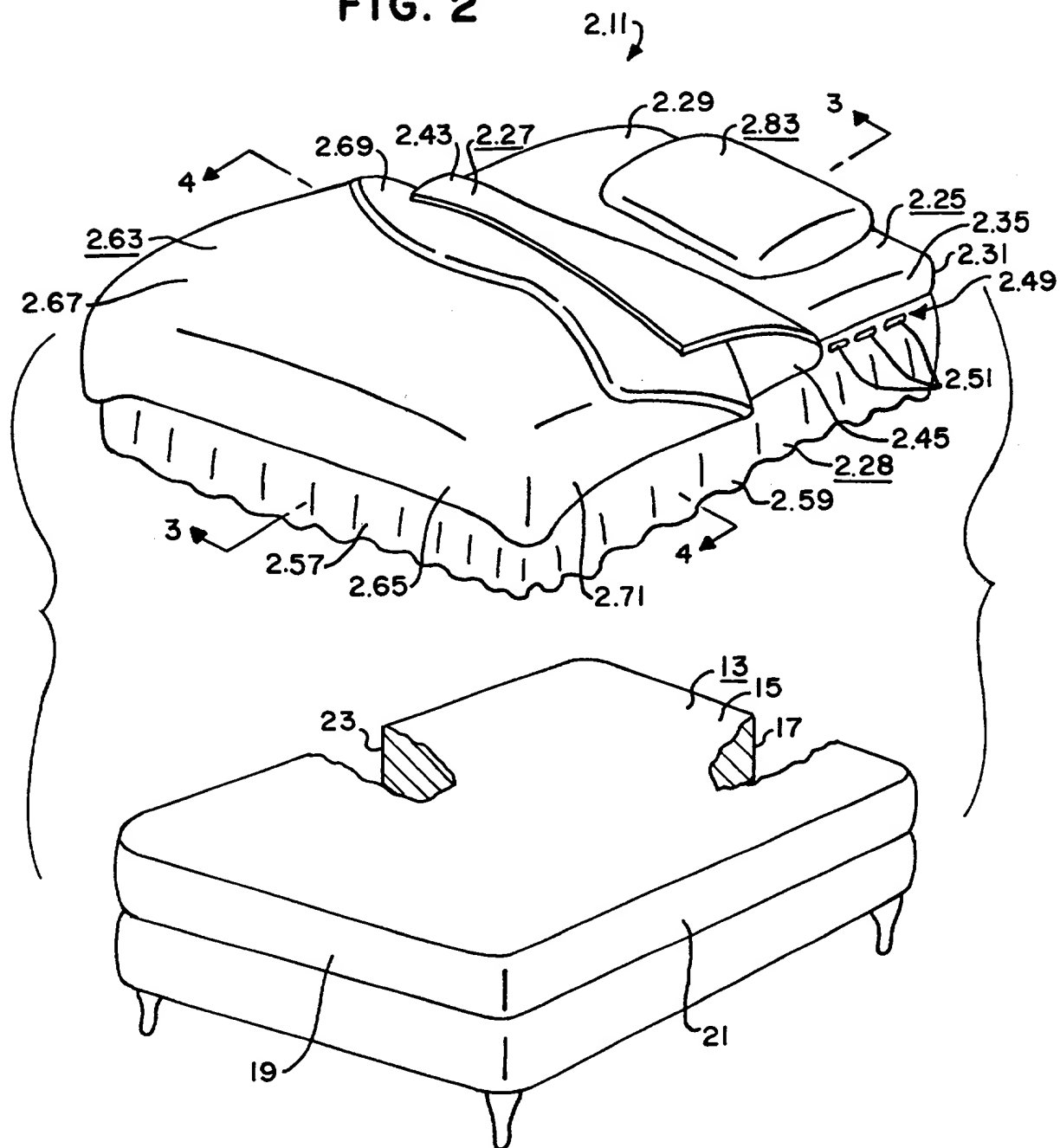


FIG. 3

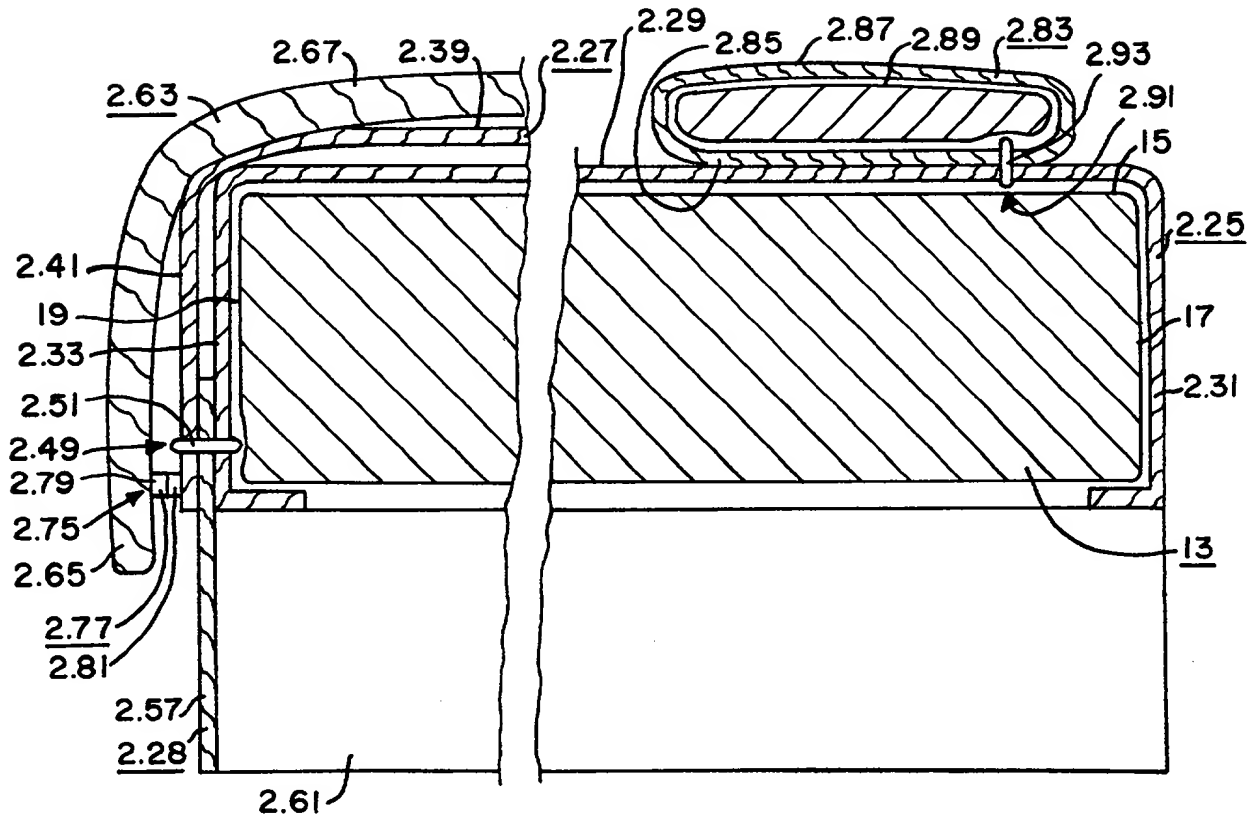
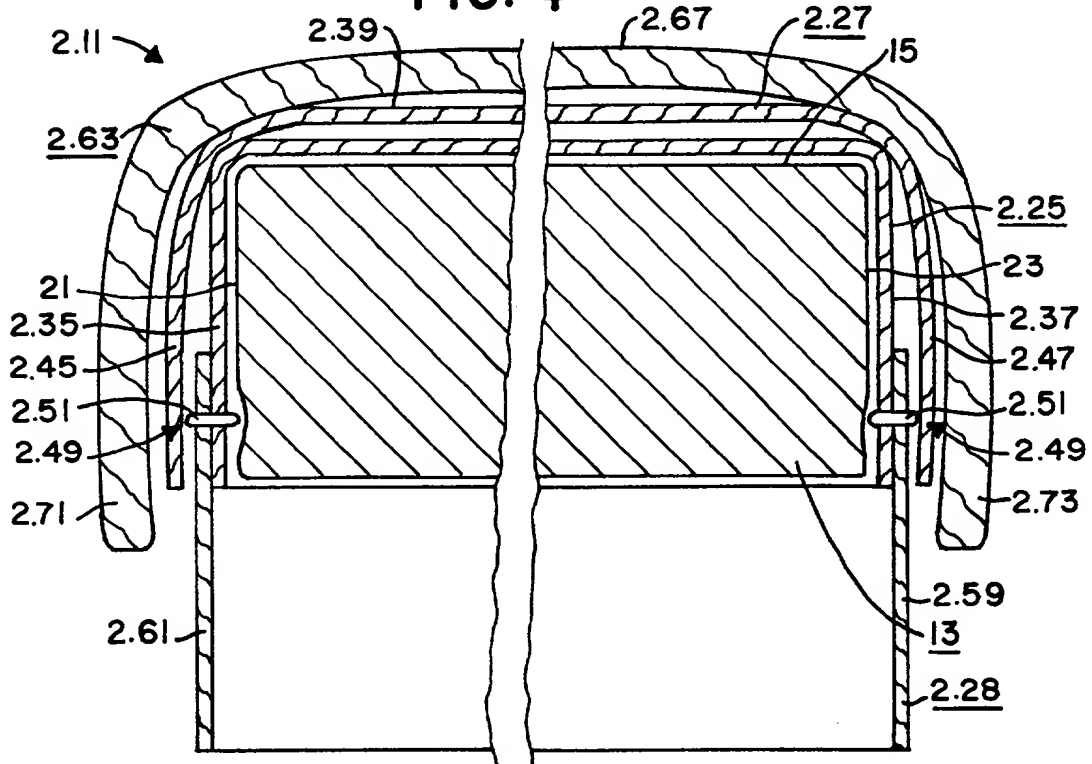


FIG. 4



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DECLARATION FOR UTILITY OR DESIGN PATENT APPLICATION (37 CFR 1.63)

☒ Declaration Submitted with Initial Filing OR ☐ Declaration Submitted after Initial Filing (surcharge (37 CFR 1.16 (e)) required)

Attorney Docket Number

98,058CIP

First Named Inventor

McClendon, Virginia S.

COMPLETE IF KNOWN

Application Number

/

Filing Date

Group Art Unit

Examiner Name

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address, and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

BEDCLOTHES

the specification of which

(Title of the Invention)

☒ is attached hereto
OR

☐ was filed on (MM/DD/YYYY) as United States Application Number or PCT International

Application Number and was amended on (MM/DD/YYYY) (if applicable).

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment specifically referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR 1.56.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d) or 365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate, or 365(a) of any PCT international application which designated at least one country other than the United States of America, listed below and have also identified below, by checking the box, any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate, or of any PCT international application having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed.

Prior Foreign Application Number(s)	Country	Foreign Filing Date (MM/DD/YYYY)	Priority Not Claimed	Certified Copy Attached?	
				YES	NO
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

☐ Additional foreign application numbers are listed on a supplemental priority data sheet PTO/SB/02B attached hereto:

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. 119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below.

Application Number(s)	Filing Date (MM/DD/YYYY)	<input type="checkbox"/> Additional provisional application numbers are listed on a supplemental priority data sheet PTO/SB/02B attached hereto.

(Page 1 of 2)

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I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. 120 of any United States application(s), or 365(c) of any PCT international application designating the United States of America, listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States or PCT International application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR 1.56 which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application.

U.S. Parent Application or PCT Parent Number	Parent Filing Date (MM/DD/YYYY)	Parent Patent Number (if applicable)
08/908,339	08/07/1997	

☐ Additional U.S. or PCT international application numbers are listed on a supplemental priority data sheet PTO/SB/02B attached hereto.

As a named inventor, I hereby appoint the following registered practitioner(s) to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith: ☐ Customer Number → Place Customer
Number Bar Code
Label here

OR
☒ Registered practitioner(s) name/registration number listed below

Name	Registration Number	Name	Registration Number
Larry W. McKenzie	28,239		
Russell H. Walker	35,401		

☐ Additional registered practitioner(s) named on supplemental Registered Practitioner Information sheet PTO/SB/02C attached hereto.

Direct all correspondence to: ☐ Customer Number OR ☒ Correspondence address below

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Country	USA	Telephone	901-685-7428	Fax	901-682-6488

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under 18 U.S.C. 1001 and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Name of Sole or First Inventor:		<input type="checkbox"/> A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor			
Given Name (first and middle [if any])		Family Name or Surname			
Virginia S.		McClendon			
Inventor's Signature	<i>Virginia S. McClendon</i>			Date	7-17-98
Residence: City	Memphis	State	TN	Country	USA
Post Office Address	1188 Saxon Street				
Post Office Address					
City	Memphis	State	Tennessee	ZIP	38106
				Country	USA

☐ Additional inventors are being named on the _____ supplemental Additional Inventor(s) sheet(s) PTO/SB/02A attached hereto

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**STATEMENT CLAIMING SMALL ENTITY STATUS
(37 CFR 1.9(f) & 1.27(b))—INDEPENDENT INVENTOR**

Docket Number (Optional)

98,058CIP

Applicant, Patentee, or Identifier: Virginia S. McClendon

Application or Patent No.: _____

Filed or Issued: _____

Title: BEDCLOTHES

As a below named inventor, I hereby state that I qualify as an independent inventor as defined in 37 CFR 1.9(c) for purposes of paying reduced fees to the Patent and Trademark Office described in:

☒ the specification filed herewith with title as listed above.

☐ the application identified above.

☐ the patent identified above.

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I acknowledge the duty to file, in this application or patent, notification of any change in status resulting in loss of entitlement to small entity status prior to paying, or at the time of paying, the earliest of the issue fee or any maintenance fee due after the date on which status as a small entity is no longer appropriate. (37 CFR 1.28(b))

Virginia S. McClendon
NAME OF INVENTOR

NAME OF INVENTOR

NAME OF INVENTOR

Virginia S. McClendon
Signature of inventor

Signature of inventor

Signature of inventor

7-17-98
Date

Date

Date

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